

FISCAL NOTE

TO: Chief Clerk of the Senate
Chief Clerk of the House

FROM: James A. Davenport, Executive Director

DATE: March 18, 1996

SUBJECT: **SB 2806 - HB 2899**

This bill, if enacted, will require each local board of education to establish a policy and guidelines for release time for religious instruction for up to 90 minutes per week. Such student shall be excused to participate provided that the instruction is provided off school property, the student has written permission of parent/guardian, the system incurs no costs, attendance records are kept, and medical insurance is maintained by the parents on participants while on release time. Approximately two class periods will be affected by the 90 minute per week provision in grades 7-12.

The fiscal impact from enactment of this bill is estimated to be an increase in local government* expenditures to establish guidelines and to monitor this activity. However, such increase is estimated to be not significant. The Department of Education has stated that 90 minutes release time per week would not reduce local funding based on Average Daily Membership.

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director

SB 2806 - HB 2899

*Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: *no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*